

## CLEAN ENERGY DEVELOPMENT FUND ANNOUNCES GRANTS OF OVER \$900,000 FOR ADVANCED WOOD HEATING

Grants to Schools, Affordable Housing, and Pellet Supply Companies

Montpelier, Vermont – Commissioner Christopher Recchia announced that the Department of Public Service (DPS) has awarded \$913,054 from the Clean Energy Development Fund (CEDF) to increase the demand and supply for local wood heat. The CEDF awarded 11 grants to schools and affordable housing projects across the State to install advanced wood heating systems and five grants to increase the supply infrastructure of wood pellets. The heating systems are projected to eliminate the use of roughly 124 thousand gallons of fossil fuel annually, bringing the state closer to its goal of meeting 30% of Vermont's space heating needs with renewable energy by 2025.

"I am pleased to announce over \$438,000 in grants to local schools and housing groups in support of the development of clean, renewable biomass heat for these important institutions, along with an additional five grants totaling \$474,000 for improving bulk wood pellet infrastructure and delivery" said Commissioner Recchia.

"Even with today's low oil prices we are seeing an increased interest in switching to local bulk pellets" said Andrew Perchlik, CEDF Director.

The DPS/CEDF is working with Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation (FP&R) and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) to build a vibrant advanced wood heat sector in Vermont. Staff from FP&R assisted the CEDF in the program design and grant selection process. In reviewing the projects the CEDF received technical assistance from the Vermont State Wood Energy Team and the U.S. Forest Service's Wood Education and Resource Center.

FP&R Commissioner Michael Snyder said "These grants are providing necessary support for the type of advanced wood heat projects that help to sustain our forests and the Vermont forest product sector".

ACCD Deputy Secretary Leriche said "Our agency sees great economic and community development potential in switching from imported fossil fuels to local wood for our heating needs, and we will continue to collaborate with the DPS on projects like the ones announced today."

Additional information on all the grant awards is available on the DPS website at: <a href="http://publicservice.vermont.gov/renewable\_energy/cedf">http://publicservice.vermont.gov/renewable\_energy/cedf</a>

2016 Bulk Pellet Infrastructure Grants							
Grantee	Location of Project	Infrastructure Project	Project's Total Cost		Grant Awarded		
Bourne's Energy	North Hyde Park	Bulk Pellet Storage Silo	\$	61,693	\$	21,593	
Kingdom Pellets	Lunenburg	New Mill - Bulk Pellet Components	\$	4,571,000	Ś	250,000	
Kinguom Peliets	Lunenburg	Components	Ş	4,371,000	Ş	230,000	
Renewable Fuels of		Bulk Pellet Improvements at					
VT LLC	Windsor	Windsor Pellet Mill	\$	138,500	\$	48,475	
Sandri	Brattleboro & Windham County	9 Ton Bulk Pellet Delivery Truck	\$	203,525	\$	60,000	
VT RE Fuels	Montpelier & Surrounding Communities/Counties	14 Ton Bulk Pellet Delivery Truck	\$	270,000	\$	94,000	
		Totals	\$	5,244,718	\$	474,068	

**Advanced Wood Heating System Installation Grants** 

Grantee	Town of Project	Type of Building	Type of Wood Heating Fuel	Type of Fuel to be Displaced	Estimated Annual Gallons of Fuel Displaced	Grant Awarded \$	Total Heating System Project Cost \$
Barre Supervisory Union	Barre	School	Chips	Wood chips and Propane	wood chips and 3,000 gals of propane	80,000	339,900
Bradley House	Brattleboro	Affordable Housing	Pellet	#2 oil	11,802	71,008	202,880
Brewster-Pierce Memorial School	Huntington	School	Pellet	#2 oil	6,130	47,117	134,620
Downstreet Housing & Community Development	Montpelier	Affordable Housing	Pellet	#2 oil	7,684	40,000	143,477
Housing VT - Applegate Apartments	Bennington	Affordable Housing	Chips and/or Pellets	#2 oil	40,000	50,000	1,367,600
Housing VT - Hickory Street	Rutland	Affordable Housing	Pellet	LP	10,800	50,000	147,659
Housing VT - Union Square	Windsor	Affordable Housing	Pellets	#2 oil	17,000	25,000	219,397
Pittsford School District - Lothrop School	Pittsford	School	Pellet	#2 oil	17,000	10,000	190,800
Shires Housing	Bennington	Affordable Housing	Pellet	#2 oil	1,754	15,861	52,871
Windham & Windsor Housing Trust - Canal Street	Brattleboro	Affordable Housing	Pellet	#2 oil	5,427	20,000	228,800
Windham & Windsor Housing Trust - Green Street	Brattleboro	Affordable Housing	Pellet	#2 oil	3,616	20,000	142,000
					124,213	\$ 428,986	\$ 3,170,004